

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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P 031510Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4340

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5242

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS YO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AIR FORCE DELEGATION TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA

REF: (A) STATE 234402 (B) STATE 229874 (NOTAL) (C) BELGRADE 4387

1. EMBASSY NATURALLY WELCOMES POSSIBILITY OF USAF DELEGATION VISITING YUGOSLAVIA IN NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO DEFER RAISING MATTER WITH YUGOSLAVS UNTIL USG INTERNAL DUCKS ARE MORE IN A ROW.

2. SPECIFICALLY, UNTIL USG HAS FOLLOWED THROUGH ON SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT STATEMENT TO MINIC (REF B) THERE IS LITTLE BENEFIT TO BE GAINED FROM VISIT. IN FACT, UNLESS DECISIONS ARE TAKEN IN ADVANCE ON SOME BASIC ITEMS ON GOY LIST THAT US IS PREPARED TO OFFER, DELEGATION WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LOOK LIKE STILL ANOTHER TEMPORIZING STEP ON OUR PART.

3. IF STICKING POINT IS IDENTIFICATION OF GOY PRIORITIES (REF C HAS ALREADY GIVEN OUR INTERPRETATION OF THEIR PRIMARY WANTS) DATT PREPARED TO SEEK IMMEDIATE DEFINITION OF MOST WANTED ITEMS. EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON NEED TO DO THIS.

4. FURTHER, EMBASSY STRONGLY FEELS THAT ONCE USG HAS MADE SOME OFFERS ON ITEMS OF HIGH INTEREST TO GOY USAF GROUP SHOULD HAVE AUTHORITY TO TALK TURKEY ON OTHER SPECIFIC ITEMS ON EXIST QG LISTS THAT DO NOT NEED
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CLARIFICATION.

5. PROPOSED VISIT WOULD CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTE TO EMBASSY INTERESTS AND, WE BELIEVE, THOSE OF GOY. AND EMBASSY PREPARED TO MOVE QUICKLY ON GEARING UP FOR SUCH A VISIT, BUT REITERATES THAT IT PLANS TO REFRAIN FROM RAISING WITH YUGOSLAVS AND STARTING TO PLAN ON DATES AND VISIT SITES UNTIL NOTIFIED OF DECISIONS TAKEN AS RESULT OF SECRETARY-MINIC CONVERSATIONS; AS WELL AS RECEIVING GUIDANCE REQUESTED ABOVE. BOTH TIMING AND SUBSTANCE ARE CRITICAL AT THIS JUNCTURE.
SILBERMAN

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